

The regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting was called to order by the chair, George Lagassa at 7:00pm. Those present included Allen Hines, Jack Steiner (Selectmen), and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator).

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of January 24th. Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the regular minutes of January 24th. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

Administration/Business

- a. Minutes - January 24th
- b. Payroll
- c. Manifest
- d. Elderly Exemption - Kenneth & Virginia Brayton - 013-014-000
- e. Discretionary Easement - Jeanne Fisher (signatures)
- f. Coakley Minutes
- g. Executive Newsletter
- h. Rockingham County Nursing Home data

The Board reviewed and signed a cooperative grant agreement (\$25,000) with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Dept of the Interior) as part of the Little River Salt Marsh Restoration Project. Part of the funds will be used for the Phase I (Appledore culvert replacement) while the remainder will be used for Phase II (dredging).

The TA briefed the Board on the Coakley loan/grant agreement covering costs associated with OU II. The total amount of the loan was \$48,428 amortized over 20 years at 3.2%. The loan was part of the state revolving loan fund and 20% of the loan total was in the form of a grant. The Board had the option of structuring repayment of the loan as either equal principle or equal payment. The TA recommended equal principle payments because total costs were several thousand dollars less than a loan structured with equal payments. The Board agreed.

Selectmen's Issues

Award Presentation for Henry Fuller

Mr. Lagassa noted Mr. Fuller had worked very hard to represent the Town's interests during the Hampton Water Works request for a rate increase before the PUC. The award was in recognition of Mr. Fuller's efforts.

Mr. Lagassa reported that the solid waste committee had been reconstituted and that they were now meeting regularly. The group had toured the Rye transfer station to better understand the layout and operation of the facility. The current membership included Henry and his cousin Phebe mixer, Dick Wollmar, Richard Goeselt, George Lagassa, Robert Strout (Road Agent) and Russell McAllister (TA). Mr. Steiner made a motion to accept the membership of the reconstituted Solid Waste Committee. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. Mr. Steiner noted that another trash hauler (Atlantic Disposal) was interested in providing service in North Hampton. It was expected that they would make a presentation to the Board at a future date.

Mr. Lagassa asked about the progress of Brooks Valuation in their appraisal of the Hampton Water Works. The TA reported that Jim Brooks had been denied access to HWW property in Town. There is a statute that

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can be used to gain access to private property by municipal officials for the purpose of conducting an appraisal. Mr. Brooks provided a list of HWW property located in Town. The list had been forwarded to the Town's legal counsel.

Questions & Comments

Henry Mixer addressed the Board concerning their support, at least in theory, to the Conservation Commission's adoption of a public land purchase program to preserve open space. Mr. Hines asked where the money to fund such a program would come from. Mr. Mixer believed that it would take some sort of bonding for the program to be successful. After some further discussion Mr. Steiner made the motion to support the concept of a land acquisition plan as proposed by the Conservation Commission. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Lucille Ellingwood commented on the serious problem of MTBE contaminating drinking water supplies.

There being no further business to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45pm.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator